

## WASHINGTON.

## Provisional Governor Sharkey, of Mississippi, Relieved.

## Texas and Florida the Only Remaining States to be Relieved.

## THE MEXICAN PRESIDENCY.

## General Ortega's Friends Assert that He Will Abide by the Decision of Juarez.

## The Spanish Government Instructs Its Cruisers to Treat Chilean Privateers as Pirates.

## Protest of the Chilean Government Against This Procedure.

## Commission Appointed to Inspect the First Section of the Union Pacific Railroad.

## WASHINGTON, Dec. 26, 1865.

## PROVISIONAL GOVERNOR SHARKEY, OF MISSISSIPPI, RELIEVED.

The President has, through the Secretary of State, relieved Judge Sharkey of the trust of Provisional Governor of Mississippi, and recognized his duly elected successor in the person of Governor Humphreys. The letters addressed to them are similar to those written to the Provisional Governors and Governors of the other Southern States, remitting to the constituted authorities chosen by the people the care and conduct of their proper affairs. Texas and Florida are the only two remaining States to be relieved.

## THE PRESIDENT OF THE MEXICAN REPUBLIC.

The constitutional term of President Juarez expired by limitation on the 15th of November last. Among the republican statesmen of Mexico there seemed to be some doubt as to whether he should continue in his office until another election could be held, agreeable to the constitution and the exigencies of the country, or as to whether he should relinquish the Presidency into the hands of General Ortega, the Vice President. All true Mexicans, however, unanimous in the first opinion. General Ortega deemed it his duty to be at the capital of the republic at the expiration of the constitutional term, with a view to assume the charge of public affairs, should President Juarez deem it proper to relinquish them. As rumors, growing out of these circumstances, prejudicial to the liberal cause had been circulated, the friends of Mexico in this city deny that President Juarez and General Ortega have quarreled, and say that the latter will submit gracefully to the determination of the former, and continue, as hitherto, to uphold, in the field and cabinet, the independence and integrity of the republic.

## THE SPANISH-CHILEAN WAR.

The Spanish government has given instructions to its cruisers to treat Chilean privateers as pirates, if their crews are not natives of the republic of Chile. Señor Anta Barga, the Chilean Charge d'Affaires here, has been informed of the solemn protest of his government against this procedure of the Spanish government. If carried into effect this Chilean manifesto will be followed by the most severe reprisals on the part of the Chilean government, which recognizes as citizens all who are employed in its war or merchant marine, and will accord them the fullest protection.

## APPLICATIONS FOR PARDON.

One hundred and fifty petitions for pardon were received today from citizens of Alabama, among them Alfred Iverson, ex-United States Senator. Very few pardons are now being granted, and nearly all of them are to Texans. Several thousand applications are on file.

## CABINET MEETING.

All the members of the Cabinet were at the meeting today. Secretary McCulloch having returned from his trip North.

## INSPECTION OF THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD.

The President has appointed Colonel J. H. Simpson, of the Engineer Corps, United States Army; Hon. Samuel R. Curtis, of Iowa, and Hon. Wm. M. White, of Connecticut, to inspect and report upon the construction of the first section of forty miles of the Union Pacific Railroad west from Omaha. The above named gentlemen leave Washington to-night upon the above tour, and will be absent about three weeks. The report of their inspection will be made through the Secretary of the Interior, and if it justifies the acceptance of the road as constructed the company will be entitled to the subsidies in money and land granted for this purpose by act of Congress.

## THE OHIO SENATORSHIP.

Mr. Schenck, chairman of the House Military Committee, left for Ohio this evening to be present at the opening of the Legislature of that State and to present his claim for the United States Senatorship. Senator Schenck has been there some days. The contest is likely to be close and exciting. Ex-Governor Dunham is also on the ground, and, although not at present a candidate, may, in some unforeseen contingency, become one and bear off the honors of the office.

## THE CASE OF C. C. CLAY.

Mr. C. C. Clay is again in the city, and last evening had a short interview with the President, endeavoring to expedite the trial of her husband if she cannot effect his release on parole.

## INTERNAL REVENUE RECEIPTS.

The receipts from internal revenue for the week ending the 23d amounted to \$5,000,000. Total since the 1st of July 1865, \$171,000,000.

## THE CONGRESSIONAL LOBBY AT WORK.

About twenty Congressmen only remain in the city for the holiday vacation. Nearly all the Representatives for the Middle, Eastern and nearest of the Western States have gone home, and since the committees were selected principally from those localities, no work is being done. The lobby is organizing, however, against the re-assembly of Congress. The payment of bounties to volunteers of 1861 is one of the measures upon which they are to attack Congress, inasmuch as there is considerable money in it.

## PROMOTION OF GENERAL F. KELLY SMITH.

The President has appointed Brigadier General Thomas Kelly Smith, of Ohio, to the position of general and adjutant general during the war, to be a Major General by brevet in the service of the United States, with rank to date from March 10, 1865.

## RUINERS OF THE PATENT OFFICE.

Six thousand six hundred and sixteen patents have been issued from the Patent Department during the closing year—the largest issue ever made in one year, and exceeding the total issued in 1864, by about seven hundred patents.

## TRANSACTIONS OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE.

The volume of transactions in public lands is steadily growing. Fifty-two thousand acres have been taken up at St. Cloud, Minnesota, during the month of November. Forty-nine thousand acres of which were entered for actual settlement. St. Cloud is about the geographical center of the State, and returns larger sales of public lands than any other office in the country.

## STATISTICS OF MANUFACTURED COTTON.

The proof volume sent from the government promulgating full statistical information regarding manufacturing in this country, asserts that the present value of the manufactured cotton is equal to three dollars and sixty-eight cents per capita of the whole population of the United States. The amount of woven fabric is equal to thirty-

six yards per head—more than double the estimated average consumption of Great Britain.

## FARMER.

Colo. of Philadelphia, convicted and sent to the State Prison for fraudulent enlistments, has been pardoned by the President, on the recommendation of the Pennsylvania delegation and other prominent individuals, procured by the personal importunities of his wife. Those who believed him guilty were moved by her devotion and entreaties. It is to be hoped that he will in future lead a wiser life.

## THE CATTLE PLAGUE IN ENGLAND.

The United States Consul at Manchester, England, under date of December 9, informs the State Department that since his last despatch on the subject of the cattle plague the deaths have rapidly increased.

## KENTUCKY KNOCKED OVER.

## The Whole Slave Code of Kentucky Has Ceased to Exist.

(From the Louisville Courier, Dec. 23.)  
The adoption of the constitutional amendment of 1865, a great barrier to the shackles of the citizens of Kentucky. The period of uncertainty, which has forever closed, weighed like a mountain upon them. The State has protected the master and military authorities to a large extent, and the laws of Congress to some extent protected the slave. The whole slave code of Kentucky, which was a practical and a legal code, was a code of laws, for every one seemed equally bound to obey. This was a bad thing for the blacks, who, the later were deterred from hiring the former, through fear of the penalties impending over them for so doing, without the consent of masters, by virtue of the power of State laws. Slaves could not find employment consequently as free persons, and were not secure either as slaves or as freed people. They were literally outcasts. The whole slave code of Kentucky, which was a practical and a legal code, was a code of laws, for every one seemed equally bound to obey. This was a bad thing for the blacks, who, the later were deterred from hiring the former, through fear of the penalties impending over them for so doing, without the consent of masters, by virtue of the power of State laws. Slaves could not find employment consequently as free persons, and were not secure either as slaves or as freed people. They were literally outcasts.

## NORTH CAROLINA.

## General Crook Prohibits the Execution of Sentence for the Sale of a Negro-In-tervention of the Freedmen's Bureau Superintendent-Practical Instructions for Non-Collection of the Constitutional Convention Tax-Fights Between Whites and Negroes, Dec. 26, 1865.

In the case of Walter McCoy, colored, sentenced by the County Court to be sold into servitude for five years, for larceny, Major General Crook, commanding the district, overrules the sentence on the ground that no laws can be enforced which make a distinction between black and white. The statute which provides for the selling of free negroes into servitude was not, therefore, enforced. The Sheriff has been instructed, by order of the President, not to enforce the collection of the tax levied by the Constitutional Convention. This action was procured by merchants interested in the matter.

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## VIRGINIA.

## Two Negro Prisoners Rescued from the Manchester Jail by a Mob of Their Colored Brethren, &amp;c.

Christmas was observed in this city by all classes with the usual festivities. No demonstration of mob violence occurred, except at Manchester, opposite Richmond, where a large number of freedmen surrounded the jail and forced the release of two colored prisoners. Official reports from all other sections of the State represent the freedmen as quiet, and no apprehension exists on the part of the officers of the bureau of any disturbance among them.

## Negro Riot in Alexandria—Four White Men and Six Negroes Reported Killed.

The Evening Star has information of a riot in Alexandria, Va., yesterday, and says it commenced by a party of negroes, who were going about the city with a drum. The rioting in the streets of a man named Mankin, he fired on the party, killing one and wounding another. The disturbance extended to other portions of the city, and lasted until late at night. Shooting was going on in every direction. Four white men are reported killed and a number wounded, in addition to the six negroes reported killed.

## News from Fortress Monroe.

Fortress Monroe, Dec. 25, 1865.  
In some localities in this district last night considerable excitement prevailed, owing to an unfounded rumor circulated that the blacks were to get up an insurrectionary movement against the whites. The blacks celebrated Christmas Eve in accordance with their usual custom, by a display of fireworks. No overt act has been reported, except in Norfolk, where a negro attacked a policeman with a club, who, in self-defense, shot the colored man. The pilot boat Invincible, from Cape Henry, reports the following vessels passed at sea—Steamer Worcester, Baltimore to Liverpool; ship Washington, Callao for New York.

## The ship David Stewart and three unknown brig for Baltimore came into the capes today.

## The steamer Cumberland has sailed and gone to sea.

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## FIRE.

## Fire in Pearl Street—A Four Story Building Destroyed—Loss About Sixty Thousand Dollars.

Between eight and nine o'clock on Tuesday morning a fire broke out in the cellar of building No. 188 Pearl Street. From a statement made by the porter to Assistant Fire Marshal H. O. Baker it appears that he opened the cellar door from the outside, and while engaged in putting on his overalls he saw a light at the back part of the cellar. On going to see what it was he saw a small blaze between the turpentine barrels, and apparently on the floor. He tried to extinguish the fire by removing some of the barrels, but the heat and smoke soon became so strong that he was compelled to leave. On reaching the street he immediately gave the alarm of fire. He cannot account for the fire, and says no one had been in the cellar since Saturday, when he locked it up, and has had the key in his pocket ever since.

## Owing to the combustible character of the goods in the cellar, consisting of one hundred barrels of turpentine and a quantity of resin, the flames spread rapidly and defied all efforts of the firemen to extinguish them. The flames spread up the rear staircase and soon reached a quantity of cotton stored on the third and fourth floors. In about half an hour after the fire was discovered a terrible explosion took place, supposed to have been caused by the burning of the turpentine barrels. The window sashes and glass, and bricks and pieces of broken stone, were scattered into and across the street, severely cutting the faces and otherwise injuring several persons. Fortunately, however, no one was dangerously hurt. The firemen worked well and succeeded in preventing the spread of the fire to the adjoining buildings. Commissioners Pickens and Brown were on hand and in the front uniform. They rendered the Chief Engineer and his assistants such aid as was required. The character of the burning material made the extinguishing of the fire very difficult. Several steamers were at work all day, and up to the time of our going to press were still at work; but the further spread of the fire was checked soon after it broke out.

## The basement, where the fire started, and the second, third and fourth floors, were occupied by C. R. Dibble, commission merchant. Mr. Dibble estimates his loss at about \$40,000. He is insured for \$35,000.

## The first floor was occupied by Henry Clarks, dealer in cordage and twine. His loss will be about \$10,000; insured for \$12,000. In the Brevoort, International, New England and another insurance company.

## The building is owned by the Leffland estate. It is damaged about \$6,000, and is insured in the Leffland and Knickerbocker insurance companies.

## Some damage was done to the stock of M. P. Brown, dealer in beads, at 186, and also to the stock of M. Brown, at 186, in the same building, dealer in beads, all of which were insured by the Leffland estate.

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